

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

A PKI mechanism is facilitated in a bandwidth-limited distributed environment by creating a periodic chain of PKI related updates. Changes in CRLs are reflected by periodically created DeltaCRL objects that are part of a continuous chain. The DeltaCRL objects allow for the iterative generation of an updated CRL from a known base CRL within the timeframe of the DeltaCRL chain. Updating of CRL data at bandwidth-limited remote nodes of the distributed environment is facilitated by transmitting a relatively small data object instead of transmitting a complete and bandwidth-taxing updated CRL.